



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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FILED: April 5, 2000

EXAMINER: L. Ferguson

TITLE: "OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIUM"

RESPONSE "B" TO THE NON FINAL OFFICE ACTION

BOX Non Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

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Technology Center 2600

This is a response to the non final Office Action of November 30, 2001. Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 6, as follows:

5 In addition, the surface hardness of the surface layer 5 is desirably not less than H in
terms of pencil hardness. [H in terms of pencil hardness is stated in JIS (Japanese Industry
Standard) S 6005 (Leads for mechanical pencils), where JIS S 6005 corresponds to ISO
(International Organization for Standardization) 9177-2 (Black leads in mechanical pencils --
Classification and dimensions) and ISO 9177-3 (Black leads in mechanical pencils -- Bending
10 strengths of HB leads).] The results of a collision test against a pickup have indicated that, if
the light incident side surface of the optical disc 1 has a pencil hardness not less than H, the
optical disc is not damaged on collision against the objective lens. It is furthermore desirable
that the surface hardness of the surface layer 5 is not less than 2H in terms of pencil hardness.
This effectively prohibits the optical disc 1 from being damaged due to contact with the
15 objective lens.